



**City of Clay**  
**P.O. Box 345**  
**Clay, Al 35048-0345**

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**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**November 19, 2012**

The City Council of the City of Clay met in regular session on Monday, November 19, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Clay City Hall. Mayor Webster presided over the meeting and Susan Nelson, Revenue Officer, served as recorder.

Mayor Webster called the meeting to order and Mr. Ronnie Dixon, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, opened in prayer and Councilor Thackerson led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of those present was answered by the following:

Councilor Baker  
Councilor Small

Councilor Halstead  
Councilor Thackerson

Councilor Johnson  
Mayor Webster

Absent: None

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting and Regular Council meeting minutes of October 18, 2012.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve the Pre-Council meeting minutes and Regular Council meeting minutes of October 18, 2012, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson and approved by unanimous voice vote.*

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve organizational meeting minutes of October 25, 2012.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve the organizational meeting minutes of October 25, 2012, which was seconded by Councilor Johnson and approved by unanimous voice vote.*

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Swearing-In Ceremony and Regular Council meeting minutes of November 5, 2012.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve the Swearing-In Ceremony and Regular Council meeting minutes of November 5, 2012, which was seconded by Councilor Small and approved by unanimous voice vote.*

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve the meeting agenda which was seconded by Councilor Halstead and approved unanimously by voice vote.*

Mayor Webster called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

*Councilor Thackerson made a motion to approve the meeting agenda which was seconded by Councilor Small and approved unanimously by voice vote.*



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Under **Scheduled Public Comments**, Mayor Webster introduced the bid opening for paving Torrey Pines Circle. Building Superintendent Lynn Burch announced that 11 invitations to bid were distributed and one company submitted their bid, which was read aloud as follows:

Butler Contractors:

Asphalt (5,191 square yards) – \$35,000.00

Milling – \$9,600.00

Total – \$44,600.00

Mayor Webster asked why only one company submitted a bid. Mr. Burch answered that asphalt has always been a difficult area for him to gather bids. Mayor Webster stated that the Council will review the bid and make a decision at a later date.

Under **Reports from Standing Committees** Mayor Webster reported for the **Finance Committee**. He announced that Mr. Ken Griffith and Mr. Tom Blake have volunteered to be on the Finance Committee and there is one more position available. He stated that he has been working to obtain proposals from auditors for the city's annual audit, he would like to have the audit done for creating the budget, and he would like to have a work session with council members, committee members, and department heads. He stated that his goal is to have a budget at the beginning of the year.

Councilor Baker was recognized for a report from the **Public Safety Committee**. Councilman Baker announced that he has had one person volunteer for the Public Safety Committee and still needs more people to fill the vacant positions. He hopes to have the committee in place to begin meetings in the next few months. Mayor Webster told Councilor Baker that Deputy Scott has submitted estimates for a radar gun because the current radar gun is broken and would cost more to repair than to buy a new one.

Councilor Halstead was recognized for a report from the **Committee on Community Development and Annexations and the Building Inspections Department**. Councilor Halstead stated that a couple of people have volunteered for his committee. He announced that there are multiple open permits for projects in the city including some that are in the final stages of rebuilding from the tornado. He stated that as far as new businesses in Clay are concerned, there are 19 vacant commercial developments in city, so new businesses would not necessarily have to build to be located in Clay. He suggests talking to restaurants. He also brought up the abatement board, saying that the officers need to be appointed so meetings can begin.



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Under **Committee on Schools, Seniors Advisory Board Liaison and Planning and Zoning Councilor Ex-Officio**, Councilor Johnson reported on the following: (1) Thanked Sherri Hood for volunteering to help coordinate the Veterans Appreciation Luncheon. (2) Announced that a fundraiser for a local resident at the Clay United Methodist Church raised \$2,290.00. (3) Reminded everyone that Clay Chalkville High School is playing Mountain Brook in the playoffs on Friday night. (4) Asked anyone interested in volunteering for the School Committee to contact City Hall. (5) Announced the Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting will both take place on December 8, beginning at 3:30 pm. (6) Congratulated Clay Youth Football 75lb team on their game.

Councilor Small was recognized for a report from the **Public Work Department and Library Board** and announced that the new Public Works Superintendent is Josh Isbell. Mr. Isbell has been working on burning trees from tornado debris and has made a lot of progress. The Library Board will meet on Tuesday November 27 to discuss budget.

**Councilor Thackerson** was recognized for a report on the **Parks and Recreation Board**. He announced that he has had four people express interest in being on the Board. He stated that he met with the Park Superintendent to prioritize projects.

Mayor Webster recognized Councilor Johnson who reported that the seniors will take an overnight trip to Eufaula on November 30 through December 1 and discussed upcoming events on the seniors' calendar. Mayor Webster stated that he and Building Superintendent Lynn Burch had recently met with Senior Activity Center Director Linda Love to discuss the use of grant money awarded to the Seniors Center and the possibility of allowing the Senior Center to break away from the County in the future.

Under **Reading of Petitions, Applications, Complaints, Appeals, Communications, etc.** there was nothing to report.

Under the **City Clerk's Report**, Revenue Officer Susan Nelson reported the account balances in the 4 & 5 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$92,339.59; 7 Cent Gasoline Fund = \$110,365.93; Capital Improvement Fund = \$67,354.50; Contractors Bond = \$53,375.76; General Fund = \$286,954.05; Library Fund = \$4,649.20; and Senior Citizens Fund = \$4,811.88.

Under **Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and Other Business** Mayor Webster called for a motion to enter into unanimous consent.

*Councilor Small made a motion to suspend the regular rules of order and enter into unanimous consent which was seconded by Councilor Baker.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster



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Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Ordinance 2012-08, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 2010-08, Business License Ordinance, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Halstead made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-08, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster stated that the Council plans to review the entire Business License Ordinance in the future. Councilor Halstead agreed, stating that he has begun making notes for when the Council can have a work session.

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-25, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 5870 Brenda Drive, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-25, which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-26, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Properties Located at 8005 and 8009 Waterford Drive, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-26, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-27, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 5791 Donna Circle, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-27, which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None



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Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-28, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 5892 Janet Drive, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson. *Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-28, which was seconded by Councilor Johnson.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-29, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 5208 Chestnut Lane, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-29, which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-30, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 5868 Janet Drive, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Halstead made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-30, which was seconded by Councilor Small.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-31, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 5401 Balboa Avenue, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-31, which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-32, A Resolution Abating Weeds on the Property Located at 5749 Desoto Drive, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*Councilor Small made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-32, which was seconded by Councilor Thackerson.*



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The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-33, A Resolution in Support of the Completion of the Northern Beltline, which was read by Councilor Small.

*Councilor Halstead made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-33, which was seconded by Councilor Baker.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Councilor Thackerson abstained from voting, citing employment as a potential conflict of interest.

Mayor Webster introduced Resolution 2012-34, A Resolution Appointing a City Manager, which was read by Revenue Officer Susan Nelson.

*After questions about the salary, Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-34, which was seconded by Councilor Small.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster called an end to Unanimous Consent.

After discussion of salary for the City Manager position, Councilor Small made a motion that the position is filled at a salary pay grade of 34.

Revenue Officer Susan Nelson stated that the Council should re-enter unanimous consent to amend the motion approving Resolution 2012-34.

*Councilor Small made a motion to suspend the regular rules of order and enter into unanimous consent which was seconded by Councilor Halstead.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None



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*Councilor Small made a motion to amend Resolution 2012-34 to include specification that that the position is filled at a salary pay grade of 34, which was seconded by Councilor Johnson.*

The motion was put before the Council and a roll call vote was conducted with the results as follows:

Yeas: Councilors Baker, Halstead, Johnson, Small, Thackerson, and Mayor Webster

Nays: None

Mayor Webster called an end to Unanimous Consent and called for **Public Comments** and recognized Mr. George Post who stated that his daughter played little league softball with Councilor Thackerson's daughter and complimented her on her athleticism, saying he was surprised that she had been diagnosed with Leukemia at an early age.

Mayor Webster recognized Mr. Ronnie Dixon, Director of the Clay Pinson Chamber of Commerce, who announced that Anthony Cooper would speak at the monthly Chamber of Commerce Luncheon on Tuesday. He reminded everyone to shop local on Small Business Saturday.

Mayor Webster called for any **Mayor / Council comments** and thanked everyone for attending. Mayor Webster also stated that Mr. Dixon plans to meet with all employees to discuss job descriptions. Councilor Halstead agreed with evaluating temporary contract labor.

Councilor Small made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilman Baker and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronnie Dixon  
City Manager